GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:103
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
EXPORT OF COIR PRODUCTS
Bhadana Shri Avtar Singh

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a): the details of the coir products exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned during the said period, year-wise, State-wise and item-wise;

(b): whether the Union Government proposes to restore the minimum export price for coir products which was scrapped last year;

(c): if so, the details thereof;

(d): is not, the reasons therefore;

(e): the total manpower engaged in the coir industry as on date, state-wise; and

(f): the measures being taken to boost the export of coir products?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) to (f): A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 103 BY SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA FOR REPLY ON 8.12.2004 REGARDING EXPORT OF COIR PRODUCTS.

(a) : The details of coir and coir products exported and the amount of foreign exchange (FE) earned during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise, are furnished below:

(Quantity in Metric Tonnes) (Amount of FE Rs. lakh)

Item	2001-2002		2001-2002		2001-2002	
	Quantity	Amount	Quantity	Amount	Quantity	Amount
Handloom Mats	26147.89	17009.85	33058.74	20711.80	36306.99	22133.69
Tufted Mats	7129.54	4112.36	6429.05	3434.74	11772.50	6359.54
Coir Yarn	13206.90	3728.60	11482.48	2996.78	12364.43	3498.71
Handloom Mattings	4423.27	2921.03	4772.63	3191.41	4545.56	2838.66
Coir Rugs	1329.97	1039.77	1327.08	932.41	1694.56	1071.36
Coir Pith	13725.65	1014.34	21064.19	1493.00	29179.35	1975.92
Coir Geo-textiles	1752.05	780.13	2140.68	985.22	2599.54	1184.74

Powerloom Mats	686.51	458.19	954.85	585.52	1026.28	672.13
Rubberised Coir	454.62	350.37	535.23	403.42	461.75	334.67
Powerloom Mattings	274.05	226.18	183.16	111.78	309.04	215.44
Coir Fibre	1010.30	122.13	1036.87	103.80	1120.75	142.44
Coir Rope	348.64	108.04	332.40	102.05	308.88	111.46
Coir other sorts	272.90	106.81	372.86	138.55	490.21	197.90
Curled Coir	572.52	80.63	492.37	80.05	76.64	14.02
Total	71334.81	32058.43	84182.59	35270.53	102256.48	40750.68

State-wise details of exports of coir are not centrally maintained.

(b)to(d): The restriction of Minimum Export Price (MEP) for export of coir and coir products was withdrawn by the Government on 9th April, 2002. The decision to withdraw the restriction of MEP was taken in the larger interests of the coir industry, after due consideration of various relevant issues. The restriction of MEP for any product, including coir and coir products, being exported has not been continued in either the EXIM Policy 2002-07 or in the latest Foreign Trade Policy (September, 2004-March, 2007) of the Union Government. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to reintroduce the restriction of MEP on export of coir and coir products. After dispensing with the condition of MEP, there has been an overall increase in terms of both total amount and quantity of exports of coir and coir products.

(e): The State-wise details of workers associated with the coir industry are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of State	Employment (number of workers)
1	Kerala	4,33,000
2	Tamil Nadu	72,840
3	Andhra Pradesh	41,400
4	Karnataka	18,000
5	Orissa	6,520
6	Other States	14,900
Total		5,86,660

(f): In order to boost the export of coir and coir products, the Government has taken the following measures:

(i) A Scheme titled `External Market Development Assistance` has been introduced in 2000-01 to provide financial assistance to small exporters in the coir sector. This assistance consists of providing Government grants to meet major part of the expenditure on air travel and rentals of stalls by exporters and their delegations to participate in buyer-seller meets, trade fairs and exhibitions abroad. The scheme also provides financial assistance to individual small exporters for undertaking sales-cum-study tours and participation in trade delegations, trade fairs, exhibitions, etc., abroad.

(ii) The Coir Board of the Government similarly participates in trade fairs/exhibitions, product promotion programmes and catalouge shows abroad, in order to promote export of products which do not get otherwise displayed by individual exporters, etc.